REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed in order to eliminate the surcharge for multiple dependent claims. Claims 3 and 6-9 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-11 are submitted for examination. Appended hereto is an annex containing "mark-ups" of the amendments to claims 3 and 6-9.

Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by this Preliminary Amendment. Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

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Scott J. Anchell

Reg. No. 35,035

Dated: 21 May 2001

Customer No. 009629 MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

1800 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 467-7000

3

ANNEX CONTAINING "MARK-UPS" TO THE CLAIMS

- 3. The vehicle communication system as claimed in [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized by an operator console controller (20.1, 20.2) with which the individual operator consoles (9) can be individually configured.
- 6. The vehicle communication system as claimed in [one of claims 4 or 5] claim 4, characterized in that when a defined load of the data bus (12) is reached or exceeded, at least one low-level application can be aborted or its data transmission rate can be reduced.
- 7. The vehicle communication system as claimed in [one of claims 4 to 6] claim 4, characterized in that the access of an application (15) to the data bus (12) can be controlled as a function of the priority of the requesting operator console (9).
- 8. The vehicle communication system as claimed in [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the operator console controller (20.1, 20.2) allocates individual access rights to the applications (15) for the access to an operator console (9).
- 9. The vehicle communication system as claimed in [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that a user interface (22) of an operator console (9) can be configured individually by the operator console controller (20.1, 20.2).